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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 17, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 12 totaled an estimated 17.3 billion ton-miles, 11.6 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 45 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 722.0 billion ton-miles, 3.2 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 12 totaled 391,202 cars, 12.3 percent over 1982, but 3.6 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 20.1 percent in the East, 5.1 percent in the South and 11.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with motor vehicles and equipment up 7,019 cars, or 55.2 percent; metallic ores up 5,223 cars, or 40.5 percent; and chemicals and allied products up 4,492 cars, or 22.5 percent. Nineteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 5 totaled 51,440 cars, up 26.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 90,790 trailers and/or containers, 26.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 44 weeks of the year was 1,982,780 cars, 21.7 percent higher than last year, and 3,431,962 trailers and/or containers, up 18.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/12/83:

	Loadings in Week ended November 12, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,763	I	3,809	14.7	D	3,861	11.5
Other farm products	5,009	D	1,708	25.4	D	507	9.2
Metallic ores	18,111	I	5,223	40.5	D	668	3.6
Coal	109,383	I	4,735	4.5	D	3,974	3.5
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,206	I	1,462	15.0	D	5	0.0
Nonmetallic minerals	11,225	I	1,661	17.4	D	372	3.2
Grain mill products	10,357	D	1,272	10.9	D	582	5.3
Food and kindred products	11,266	D	1,476	11.6	D	719	6.0
Primary forest products	15,034	I	29	0.2	D	397	2.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,172	I	1,080	17.7	D	126	1.7
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,734	D	310	2.1	D	285	1.9
Chemicals and allied products	24,469	I	4,492	22.5	D	43	0.2
Petroleum products	4,686	I	210	4.7	D	214	4.4
Stone, clay and glass products	11,231	I	1,684	17.6	D	398	3.4
Coke	5,066	I	1,592	45.8	D	139	2.7
Metals and products	8,326	I	1,380	19.9	D	377	4.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,743	I	7,019	55.2	I	259	1.3
Waste and scrap materials	9,354	I	1,952	26.4	I	299	3.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,083	I	2,679	36.2	D	199	1.9
All other carloads	54,723	I	9,423	20.8	D	2,355	4.1
LCL traffic	261	D	872	77.0	D	39	13.0
Total Cars Loaded	391,202	I	42,792	12.3	D	14,702	3.6
Corresponding week of 1982	348,410						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (45 weeks)	16,395,754	16,362,712	I 0.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
44 weeks ended November 5	704.6	684.1	I 3.0
Week ended November 12	17.3	15.5	I 11.6
45 weeks cumulative	722.0	699.6	I 3.2

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